

**HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 1, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Borough Council was held on the above date via Zoom. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times, notice was posted at the Borough Hall and on the Borough website.

Roll call was taken by Dorothy Omietanski

**Councilmembers Present**

Thomas Wheeler, President  
Dan Mandolesi, Vice President  
Mayor Debbie Mahon  
Doug Harris  
Nicholas Toth  
Judy Coleman  
Stanley Omietanski IV, Jr. Council  
Sarah Omietanski, Jr. Council

**Staff in Attendance**

Solicitor Robert DeBias  
Chief Baran  
Water & Sewer President Kurt Ludwig  
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski  
Treasurer Diane McKairnes  
Fire Marshall William Wheeler

**Councilmembers Absent:** Nick Lodise

**Councilmembers Late to Arrive:** Doug Edge

**Staff Absent:** none

**Guests in Attendance:** Marce Heald, Mike Wasson, Trisha Boyle, Nick Miller, Joscelyne Ferreira, Patricia Taggart, Carla Helbing and Barney Wheeler

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mr. Wheeler Stated:** We are holding this meeting by zoom pursuant to Senate Bill SB814, passed as Act 15 of 2020 as a result of the Emergency Declaration issued by Governor Wolf and the stay at home and shelter in place orders that have been issued by Governor Wolf. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times and notice was posted at the Borough Hall and on the Borough Website. This meeting is being recorded and will be placed on the Borough Website. A draft of the minutes will promptly be placed on the website as well.

**Minutes:**

**Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Ms. Coleman to approve the minutes of May 4 & 19, 2020; Motion Passed with all in favor 5-0-0.**

### **Mayor Mahon Statement:**

Governor Wolf is planning to bring Bucks County from the Red Phase into the Yellow Phase as his Stay at Home Order ends on the evening of June 4, 2020. The Hulmeville Playground will be open on June 5, 2020 with social distancing and PPE expectations. During these exceptional times, I encourage everyone to be vigilant with viewing all media sources as much information can be overwhelming. Please continue to honor the guidelines and give respect to everyone during these trying times.

In addition to Covid-19 updates from our EMC, Bill Wheeler and borough president, Tom Wheeler, I also have much gratitude for our Hulmeville Borough Police Department. With the current state of demonstrations on racism sparked in Minneapolis by the death of George Floyd while in police custody, our police department has helped out with neighboring departments with thwarting the possibility of riots by having a strong-positive police presence.

We have all been doing our part and I hope that you all continue to make healthy, peaceful decisions.

### **Public Comment:**

- Oil Spill – Joscelyne Ferreira at 524 Lincoln asked if there was an update on the oil spill cleanup. Mr. Wheeler said it would be covered later in the agenda.
- Meetings Borough Hall – Mr. Ludwig wanted to confirm with council if other groups would be allowed to use Borough Hall for meetings or should they continue their meetings on Zoom. Mr. DeBias explained that the Governor will allow 25 people or less meet starting Friday so they should be able to meet in person if they want or continue to Zoom. As long as the Governor has an emergency declaration in place all meeting can continue to be held via Zoom it is really up to council to decided.
- Black Property – Carla Helbing inquired about the status of the Black property. Mr. Wheeler explained that the owner resides in Florida and it not currently traveling so no progress has been made on the development of the land. The owner does have plans to build houses and is currently in negotiations with Langhorne Pallet Co.

Doug Edge arrived 7:46pm

### **Emergency Management Coordinator:**

- Reopening Borough Hall – Fire Marshal Wheeler explained to council before they open the meeting room to host meetings the meeting room needs to be cleaned and the furniture needs to be rearranged. To conduct a meeting anyone entering the building needs to have their temperature taken before entering, masks, wipes and gloves would be made available, and masks would be mandatory to wear. After the meeting the room would need to be cleaned again. Fire Marshal Wheeler has a call in to the cleaning company the Borough uses to see if its disinfectant cleaning. He is still waiting to hear back from them. If anyone has over a 100.4 temperature, they would not be allowed to

enter the building. The masks worn can be purchased or homemade. If other groups would like to hold meetings at Borough Hall, they would need to adhere to all the rules and pay for supplies and cleaning. There is a limited number of people that can be in the room when honoring the 6-foot distancing, so one suggestion is if a large group of people are attending for public comment, they could be cycled through a few at a time while the rest wait outside until it is their turn. Mr. Wheeler suggested council could use the William Penn Firehouse, which would provide space for more people. Mr. Toth stated that Zoom cannot be utilized at Borough Hall without significant added expenses in having to purchase microphones and camera. Council agreed that the work session, and the Authority meeting for June should be conducted by Zoom

**Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Lodise to adopt the Standard Operation Procedures Reconstitution Plan for Borough Hall; motion passes with all in favor 6-0-0.**

**Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Lodise to amend the motion to adopt the SOPR plan to include anyone with 100.4 or higher body temperature will be prohibited from entering Borough Hall; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.**

- COVID 19 Pandemic Status – Bucks County will be going to yellow phase on Friday June 5. Currently there are 4,755 cases in Bucks County.
- Oil Spill – Enviro Trac was contracted to perform the oil spill cleanup. They have sent a person to the site to take some initial samples for analysis. Once the sample results are available, they will schedule that onsite work. Initial profile of soil should be back this week and work is scheduled to be done next week.
- RDA Grant – Fire Marshal Wheeler submitted to council his list of emergency management equipment he would like to purchase with the RDA Grant funds. He did collect three quotes per item, and in some cases did not take the lowest price due to shipping charges. The prices are as accurate as possible but they were taken off of on line stores so the prices could change.

**Motion made by Mr. Wheeler and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to buy a 1 inverter from Home Depot \$800, 6 barricades from CCW \$463.50, 6 Jersey barriers from CCW \$1,375.98, 25 traffic cones from CCW \$176.75, 4 raincoats from CCW \$220, 4 rain pants from CCW \$100 and 4 hand lights from The Fire Store \$539.96. The cost of items is \$3,676.19 plus shipping of \$636.79 for a total cost of \$4,312.98; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.**

**Fire Marshal:** At this time due to the State issued stay at home restrictions, all inspections and code enforcement activities are temporarily suspended.

**Police Report:**

- The police report was submitted for the month of May 2020: 29 incident reports, 1 accident reports, 9 assist, 2 EMS call, 5 summary citations, 13 traffic citations, 1 criminal arrests, 0 parking, 0 hours district court and 0-hour county court or total hours worked: 257, Total

Salary \$6,412.25. Note on 5/6 all officers were re certified with Tasers, 5/9 2 hour ENRADD training and 5/21 Officer DiMeo had extra hours for arrest.

- Digital Speed Signs – Chief Baran wanted to make council aware that the speed signs will not display 50 MPH or higher on the signs, but will keep track of them in the data.
- Computer – Stanley shared his parts list with council. The total cost of his computer build for the desk top computer for the police department is \$841.76. Mr. Toth is recommending the police department purchase Informant. Informant can store their data and they have no limit as to the amount of data that can be stored. The system will also link their reports to the camera footage that goes with the report. Currently the police department completes 250 reports a year, and they just purchased 2 new cameras. There is a one-time cost of purchasing the software of \$960 and an annual fee of \$265. Mr. Toth also pointed out that the police department is in a more dire need of a laptop. He is currently gathering information for purchasing a laptop and desktop through Dell and then council will need to compare that to Mr. Omietanski’s computer build recommendation and decide which way they want to proceed.
- National Night Out – This year National Night Out will have to be a small event due to COVID. Fire Marshal Wheeler believes he heard that the event was pushed back.
- Fireworks – Ms. Coleman inquired about the extensive amounts of fireworks she heard over the weekend. Police Chief explained with all the rioting occurring the police are overwhelmed and don’t have time to address the fireworks issue. Most were coming from Bristol and Levittown.
- Drag Racing – Chief Baran is not aware of any drag racing on Main Street, however the digital signs will record any and he will be able to see it when he pulls up the data.
- Current Unrest – Chief Baran updated council with what has been taking place in Bucks County this past weekend with regards to the rioting in local communities. Franklin Mills Mall was broken into and theft occurred. Neshaminy Mall had a window break in but no one entered, and all involved were arrested. Oxford Valley Mall had no issues. There is concern with Lower Bucks County being at risk for vandalism due to its location to Trenton, Burlington and the city of Philadelphia. Police have increased the number of patrol personnel in these areas.
- Bicycle – The police bicycle has been ordered and should arrive in two weeks’ time.
- License Plate Reader – The LPR license plate reader will be installed on June 12, 2020.
- Body Camera – The in-car camera and body cameras arrived Friday.
- Open Burning – There has been a significant increase in open burn complaints since COVID stay at home orders were given. Fire Marshal Wheeler has posted a notice on the website that no open burns are permitted. The largest concern with open burns is the air quality. Both Ms. Coleman and Mayor Mahon believe the use of fire pits should be allowed with a permit, however they recommended tabling it for a future discussion.

### **Mayors Report:**

- Reopening Playground – Mayor Mahon is recommending that council purchase Covid-19 related signs for the playground's reopening
- Memorial Day Flag Distribution – The Borough distributed 275 American lawn flags over a period of three days before Memorial Day. Mayor Mahon thanked the Hulmeville Borough Police Department for their help with respectfully displaying the flags.

- 150th Celebration Committee Meeting – The meeting followed up with many items. If you have not yet signed up for a committee Mayor Mahon encourages you to see Judy Coleman, Marce Heald, or Debbie Mahon for more information.

#### **MS4:**

- Newsletter – The spring news letter was hand delivered to the residents.
- Plant Event – The plant give-a-way was held Sunday May 17, 2020 and was a success. Mayor Mahon wanted to thank everyone who participated, especially Bill Wheeler, Judy and Joe Coleman, Kurt Ludwig and Tricia Boyle. She also wanted to thank Tom and Sheri Wheeler along with William Penn Fire Co for the use of their driveways and parking lots.
- Tree Planting – The tree planting is scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2020.

**TMDL / BMP's:** Permit years 2018-2022 – items that need to be accomplished over the next 5 years. DEP will be conducting permit inspections in the spring of 2020. Samantha Brinker from Gilmore will keep us informed of that inspection.

- TMDL No 1: encouraged riparian forest buffers for all residents along the creek
- TMDL No 2: conduct site inspections to encourage storm water control measures
- TMDL No 3: installation of 2 deciduous trees in open space or within the borough proper
- TMDL No 4: reduce infiltration
- TMDL No 5: modify basins for increased infiltration reduction
- TMDL No 7: encouraged home owners to install rain barrels
- TMDL No 8: additional provisions:
  - Continued with the 4 leaf pick-ups through the fall/winter season
  - Sump Pump inspection enforcement
  - Decide on sediment reduction project
  - Lawn and garden pick up 4/1-12/1 weekly

#### **Floodplain:**

- 2 Beaver Street – Parcel 16-001-002 at 2 Beaver Street was successful with the LOMA application. The property structures are no longer listed in the AF flood plain. It is now listed as 0.2 PCT Annual Chance Flood Hazard.
- Open Space – The owners of the property along Margarett Ave. have reached out in regard to dead limbs in trees, dead trees and standing water within the Open Space areas that surrounds their property. Mayor Mahon will notify Bucks County of these concerns and suggest that they post signage.

#### **Storm Water:**

- Updated Data Base – Mayor Mahon appreciates any updates and contact information for new residents that have moved into our town in that storm water affects all residents and not just those who live in floodplain.
- McCarthy Ave – Mr. Young on McCarthy Ave contacted Tina Davis' office, again, with his sincere concern with stormwater issues that affect not just his property, but his home.

Council needs to schedule a follow up meeting with Gilmore and Assoc to discuss findings from the Hulmeville Water Authority's report.

### **Streets:**

- Main and Zimmerman – Mr. Mandolesi contacted Tina Davis regarding the temporary street light installed at Main and Zimmerman. Traffic coming south on Main Street trying to turn left onto Zimmerman cannot at rush hour times due to the very heavy detour traffic coming in the opposite direction on Main turning right onto Zimmerman. The traffic on Main Street is backing up significantly and cars can only manage to turn on red lights. Ms. Davis spoke to Mr. Blaum and he has scheduled a field visit to evaluate the problem.
- Pedestrian Study - Malik Anibaba contacted Mr. DeBias concerning the response Mr. Anibaba received from council regarding the study he performed on Main and Trenton. He requested that council explain their concerns with the no pedestrian crossing signage that his office recommends and offered to address any issues or concerns that the Borough may have regarding the matter. Council suggested inviting him to attend the 6/16 Zoom Council meeting to address their concerns. Mr. Toth will forward him the Zoom invitation.
- Curb Replacement – Mr. Wheeler cannot pin down PennDOT to an exact date that paving is scheduled to take place. PennDOT stated it will be sometime after July 4<sup>th</sup>. The Borough if they choose has roughly 1,365 feet in curb replacements along Main St. and Bellevue Ave, and 1,030 feet of driveway aprons. The approximate cost is \$80,000. If council decided to proceed with this project tonight, and placed an ad for bids, the work would need to be completed by the earliest late August. Council all agree this is a very difficult decision because of COVID and the effects it has had on many resident's income. If the curbs are not repaired now, they would have to go at least 5 to 10 years more before the Borough would have the opportunity to address this issue again. Mr. Wheeler explained that in the past the Borough has offered to do the work, and have the residents pay for their costs of curb repair on their property on a monthly basis using a contractor hired by the Borough. The residents would have the choice to have the work completed themselves or use the contractor that the Borough hires to complete the work. All residents would need to have the work completed by a specific date. The highest cost to any resident is roughly \$2,000. Mr. Wheeler will contact PennDOT and see if they can move the paving date back to the end of September or possibly next spring, which would give the Borough the time to complete the work. A letter should be sent to all the residents now to provide them some forewarning of the costs that they will be incurring. The bids that they collect should be priced per foot.

### **Authority:**

- Root Intrusion – The first phase of the root intrusion remediation program was performed and completed on May 27, 2020 without incident. It was completed on the west side of town.
- Repairs to Sewer System – The contractor performing repairs to the sewer system has been notified that they are cleared to begin the work, but they have not started yet.

**Zoning:** no report

**Finance:**

- Budget Meeting – Mr. Harris will be scheduling a budget meeting soon. He would like to print some reports on Friday before setting up any times to meet.
- P Card – Mr. Harris will distribute information regarding the P Credit Card so council can discuss it at the work session. He is recommending that the Police Chief, treasurer and secretary all have a card. There is no cost to having the card and the bills are paid monthly directly out of the plgit account.

**Solicitor:**

- RDA Grant for Paving – Mr. Wheeler read the specifications for bidders for paving the parking lot and driveway of Hulmeville Borough Hall. Ms. Omietanski will place an add on 6/5 and 6/11 and the bids would be opened on 6/23 at 7:00 pm at the pavilion at Hulmeville Borough.

**Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Edge to send out the Borough Parking Lot Proposal to bid in the Courier Times; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.**

**Trash:** no report

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report for May 4, 2020 was made available for inspection:

- **General Fund Checking** Balance as of May 1, 2020: \$ 266,471.10  
Expenses Totaled: \$ -23,041.25  
Income Totaled: \$ 184,362.91  
General Fund Checking Balance as May 31, 2020: **\$ 427,792.76**
- **Sewer Fund Checking** Balance as of May 1, 2020: \$ 39,446.04  
Expenses Totaled: \$ -23,146.13  
Income Toted: \$ 16,381.40  
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of May 31 2020: **\$ 32,681.31**
- **Sewer Fund PLGIT** Balance as of April 1, 2020: \$ 280,246.33  
Interest \$ 180.49  
Deposit \$ 0  
Expense \$ -10,000.00  
Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of April 30, 2020: **\$ 270,426.82**
- **Highway Aid PLGIT** Balance as of April 1, 2020: \$ 52,084.77  
Interest \$ 34.43  
Deposit \$ 0  
Expenses \$ -14.49

Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of April 30, 2020:	\$ 52,104.71
• <b>General Fund PLGIT</b> Balance as of April 1, 2020:	\$ 329,585.20
Interest	\$ 214.03
Deposits	\$ 0
Expenses Total:	\$ -15,540.00
General Fund PLGIT Balance as of April 30, 2020:	\$ 314,259.23

**Bills:** A copy of the bill list dated May 29, 2020 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public. Note three bills were added \$14.49 Highway Aid, \$19.21 Middletown Township and \$293.61 Mr. Wheeler for Borough Hall COVID supplies.

- **General Fund** beginning balance as of June 1, 2020: \$ 423,258.23  
ending balance as of June 4, 2020: \$ 403539.06
- **Sewer & Water** beginning balance as of May 29, 2020: \$ 33,882.69  
ending balance as of June 12, 2020: \$ 14,219.62
- **Highway Aid** beginning balance as of June 1, 2020: \$ 51,882.42  
ending balance as of June 1, 2020: \$ 51,856.44

**A motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Edge and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated June 1, 2020; motion carries 6-0-0.**

**Old Business:**

- Industrial Park – Mr. Wheeler will call the owner tomorrow regarding the barbed wire that is coming down on the property.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 pm; motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Harris; carried 6-0-0.**

. Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski  
Secretary Hulmeville Borough